

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 00624 290846Z

12

ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-02 H-01

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R 290703Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4922

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, AS, US

SUBJ: US-AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE

1. AMBASSADOR GREEN AND AGRICULTURE ATTACHE HAD USEFUL GO-AROUND WITH GOA SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE. ASKED WHAT HE REGARDED AS MAIN PROBLEMS IN US-AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS, IVES REPLIED UNHESITATINGLY THAT IT HAD BEEN IN FIELD ON CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, BUT THAT TODAY THESE DIFFICULTIES HAD BEEN OVERCOME BY EXCELLENT CONTACTS, MENTIONING IN PARTICULAR HIS HOT LINE WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY YUETTER.

2. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN OVER THE DELAY IN AGREEMENT ON VOLUNTARY RESTRAINTS ON BEEF EXPORTS TO US, POINTING OUT THAT THE LONGER THIS ISSUE IS LEFT HANGING THE GREATER THE PROBLEM REACTION IN US. AMBASSADOR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE LONGER AUSTRALIA DELAYS, THE MORE THEY WILL BE FORCED TO RESTRICT EXPORTS LATER IN THE YEAR AS THE SHIPMENTS BASED ON US CUSTOMS CLEARANCE. IVES REPLIED THAT HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE SITUATION AND HAD BEEN URGING ACCEPTANCE OF THE RESTRAINT PROGRAM FOR SIMETIME. HE SAID HE THOUGH BEEF MARKET WOULD RECOVER BY THE END

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PAGE 02 CANBER 00624 290846Z

OF 1975, BUT WAS TROUBLED ABOUT RECOVERY IN WOOL

MARKET. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE HIGH U.S. TARIFF ON WOOL AND SAID AUSTRALIA WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS REDUCED. HE FELT U.S. COULD BE A GOOD MARKET FOR WOOL.

3. IN REGARD TO THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, IVES SAID AUSTRALIA IS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH US ON ALL MAJOR ISSUES. IVES SAID THAT BY FAR THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS TO COPE WITH WORLD FOOD PROBLEM IS THROUGH INCREASING FOOD OUTPUT IN THE LDC'S WITH FERTILIZER BEING THE MAIN INPUT NEEDED. HE WAS CRITICAL OF LAST WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE FOR FAILING TO ADDRESS THE REALITIES AND FUNDAMENTALS ON INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION ESPECIALLY IN LDC'S.
GREEN

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